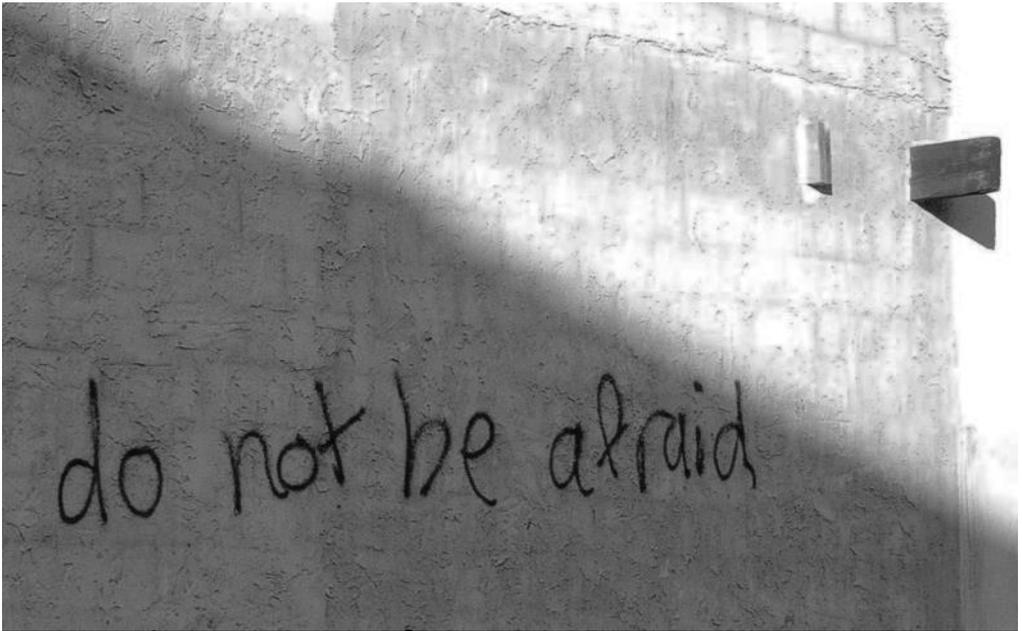




# Church on the Hill

Sunday 16 April 2017



**Theme:** Jesus and the Renewed Community  
**Vicar:** Susan Gill  
**Preacher:** Susan Gill  
**Readings:** Romans 6:3-11, Matthew 28:1-10

**Sentence:**

Jesus died to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God.

*- Romans 6:10*

**Prayer for the day:**

Thank you faithful God: on this day you raised Jesus from death, and calmed our greatest fear. Help us to celebrate with joy; that, in greeting the risen Saviour, we may be filled with the

hope of resurrected life. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Following Jesus, Building Community*

## *Reflections...*



### **Love Through the Eyes of Christ - Easter**

Here is an excerpt from a book I am reading by Frank Schaeffer:

"I was shuffling forward in the communion line, with my five year old granddaughter Lucy in my arms. I was lost in gloomy thoughts, brooding on my past and on my doubts, failures, and my past meanness to my wife .... I was feeling unworthy in every sense of the word and sinking into a gray depression....

It took me a moment to remember where I was. Lucy was gazing into my face. She wasn't smiling, just gazing at me in that straightforward way that only a child achieves: with serious concentration and offering me a transparent "look" that had no agenda. She wanted nothing from me. All I saw in Lucy's expression was unconditional trust. All I saw was a child who knows me now and who never expects anything but kindness from me. She did not know of my past sins, failings and bitter self-accusing regrets. Lucy was not judging me. I was accusing myself while she was just gently touching her grandfather's cheek, checking to see why my eyes were closed.

Lucy inclined her head and kissed me. This thought crashed into my brain: I am being seen as I'd like to be perceived, not as I see myself.

I have seen the face of God.

Our best hope is not found in correct theology, but in the love we express through action rather than words. Our best hope is that love predates creation and thus that the Creator sees us as ever young. Our hope is that when we look at God through the eyes of the loving Christ we will see who God really is. Our ultimate hope is that God will be looking back at us as we'd like to be seen."

The sacrificed Jesus made us fit for God, set us right with God. Romans 4:25.

Through Christ we have complete and utter forgiveness, and acceptance. No more busting a gut to prove anything.

The thing is that God does look at us through the eyes of Christ. And Christ sees us as we are in him. That is way better than the way we see ourselves or even as we'd like to be seen. We are perfectly loved and accepted.

Often it does take the unconditional love of a child to remind us of that!

Learning together in love,

*Susan*

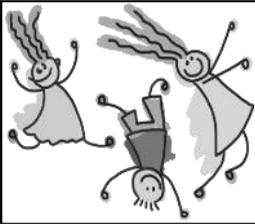
**Alpha Update** - The starting date is Tuesday 16 May and it will run after every Lunch on the Hill until the end of the course on Tuesday 21 November. All house - groups are asked to pray for the course, each time you meet. Please pray for the courage to invite someone to come, for those who come, that they will hear the Gospel message either for the first time, and come to faith, or be refreshed in their faith by hearing it again. All enquiries and to register for Alpha, to Yvonne.

**ANZAC Day display.** St. Peter's Church, Atawhai. 11.00am - 3.00pm Tuesday 25 April. Come and see the World Wars on a different scale. Miniature display of WWI Battle of the Somme, WWII Pacific, Northern France and North Africa Battles. War memorabilia on display. Sausage sizzle \$2.00.

**New church members** - It was a privilege to welcome the Weaver into our church family at the 9.00am service a couple of weeks ago. Hugo will be taking over leadership of the Going Deeper group on Sunday evenings. Hugo writes the following:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My name is Hugo Weaver. I was very pleased to be welcomed into the Holy Trinity congregation. My wife Briana and I have been blessed with four beautiful children: Elana (7), Loriann (4), Matthias (2), and Stephen (9mths). I am a teacher at Broadgreen Intermediate and my wife is charged with running the very busy ship at home. Thank you for all the warm wishes and welcome you have all given us and we will look forward to getting to know each of you better as the year progresses. God bless, The Weavers.



## = KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

**Today Sunday 16 April -**

Activities at back of church.

**Next Sunday 23 April -**

Activities at back of church.

The toy box and baby change facilities are available anytime at the rear of the Church.

Prayers and offers of help are appreciated. Catherine 022 647 9810

**Afternoon AAW Group** - Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, 26 April at 1.30pm in the Lounge. Kath Ross will be our Guest Speaker. Her talk is entitled *25 years living off the Grid - life in the outer Marlborough Sounds*. Afternoon tea to follow. There will be a Sales Table and a collection box for the Food Bank. Any new members are most welcome to attend. Enquiries to Jean McConachie 544 6921.

**Free Cycling Confidence Workshop** - A free workshop aiming to boost the safety and confidence of people using bikes is to be held in the Jaycee Room, Founders Park 10.00am - 1.00pm Saturday 22 April. All you need is your own bike, helmet, and clothing suitable for the weather. To enrol phone Will Andrews on 021 02692724.

### Prayers for the Week

**World** - God of mercy, we pray for the people of Syria, especially those who have lost loved ones as a result of chemical warfare. We pray for sensible discussions among world powers that will bring peace. We pray for those in the world affected by acts of terrorism and those affected by famine. Closer to home, we pray for the people of the Bay of Plenty who have lost homes in the recent floods and we pray that assistance and aid will come to these people quickly. And we pray for all who work with Civil Defence and other agencies bringing aid when natural disasters occur.

**Church** - We pray for Greymouth and Kumara, for Marge Teft and Robin Kingston, for discernment as they consider different ways of being community. We also pray for Savita, now in Cobden, that she will find a warm welcome at the local church. We pray for the Spring Grove Church of Christ, for Scott Blackmore and the elders and leaders of the church, for their outreach into the community.

**Mission** - Our hearts go out to Christine, who has lost her husband Allan while serving the Lord in China. Please surround her with your love and people who will support her in her grief and with making the necessary arrangements. Thank you for the life of Allan and the witness he has been, pointing people to you, and serving you with all his strength. We pray to for the Corin family in Central Asia, for Chris as he provides business mentoring, for Catherine as she teaches fulltime and looks after her family, and also as she reaches out to a local woman, who is willing to hear about Jesus. And for their children Reuben and Sacha, that they would have special connections with refugees they meet.

**Community** - On this most joyful day of the year, we pray for the Richmond community this Easter, for all the churches celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and the promise of life eternal through our faith in Christ and his work on the cross. We pray for those who don't have this hope and for our Alpha Course that it will reach out to those folk. We also pray for the school children and their teachers as the school holidays commence, and for the Queen St businesses affected by the redevelopment. We ask for safety for all who are travelling this Easter.

**Parish** - We pray for our new vestry, and for Susan, our Vicar, Lord empower them with your wisdom as they lead this church into the future, and for the ministry of all in this church. Thank you for the positive feeling at the AGM. We pray too for Kay Thomson and all at Easter Camp. We also remember Chris, Anne Green, Shirley, Lisa Arrandale, Sonja and others we know in need of your healing power especially Judy Perry's family as they mourn her loss.

"Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and Hades", *Revelation 1:17-18*. Alleluia! Jesus Lives!

## This Week...

### Monday 17 April

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

### Tuesday 18 April

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)

10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)

11.30am Lunch on the Hill

7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

### Wednesday 19 April

10.00am Wednesday Service

10.00am Tea and Talk

### Thursday 20 April

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W. Wilkinson, J. Lines)

7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

### Sunday 23 April

9.00am Holy Communion

10.45am Praise on the Hill

*\* Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

## Coming up...

### Tuesday 16 May

Alpha Course

*For more information about services or groups contact the office Ph. 544 8844.*

**St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am**

**Sunday 23 April**

**Sunday 7 May**

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

If you wish to give financial support to Holy Trinity Church, our bank account number is: 03 0751 0146369 001 Westpac Richmond

### Roster for 23 April - Thank you for serving us all!

<b>Leader:</b>	<b>8.45am</b> D Pritchard	<b>10.45am</b> J Palmer
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>8.45am</b> S Frengley, M Reynolds	<b>10.45am</b> TBA
<b>Sidespeople:</b>	<b>8.45am</b> J Lines	<b>10.45am</b> M Martin
<b>Welcomer:</b>	<b>8.45am</b> A Webb	<b>10.45am</b> S Milligan
<b>Tea:</b>	E Erskine, G Thomas	
<b>Chalice:</b>	<b>8.45am</b> S Frengley, S Paine	<b>10.45am</b> N/A
<b>Flowers:</b>	M. Evans	<b>Creche:</b> G Thomson

**Theme for Next Sunday:** Questions welcome

**Readings for next Sunday:** Acts 2:22 - 32, John 20:19 - 31

### Parish Contacts

Vicar	Susan Gill	544 8827	Children's Ministry	Catherine Barak	022 6479810
Priest Assistant	Jean Palmer	544 4275	Friends 'n Fun	Carol Sardella	544 9237
Senior's Ministry	Yvonne Smyth	544 8844	Parish Administrator	David Cowdrey	544 8844
Youth Leader	Antonio Sardella	027 3525598			

### Holy Trinity Church

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Richmond

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**Website**

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

### Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm